

## BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATION

### MOUNT UNION COLLEGE Reading Endorsement, Grades K-12

This endorsement meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a reading endorsement (grades K-12). There were no concerns identified in the review. Approval is recommended for a three-year period of time. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio endorsements and licenses continues to be met.

**Request:** Mount Union College requests approval for a Reading Endorsement, Grades K-12. Mount Union College is a private, non-profit liberal arts college affiliated with the United Methodist Church and located in Alliance, Ohio. Mount Union College is currently approved by the State Department of Education to provide teacher preparation programs leading to licensure in early childhood education, middle childhood education, adolescent and young adult education, intervention specialist education (mild-moderate) and programs leading to multi-age licenses. Mount Union College is accredited for programs at the initial level until 2016 with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and is authorized by the Chancellor, for a time period to coincide with next review by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC) in 2016.

**Background:** The Reading Endorsement can be added to an existing teacher license, K-12 and meets the knowledge and skills standards of the International Reading Association and the Ohio Performance Based Teacher Licensure Standards. In addition, Ohio requires a minimum 12-semester hour reading core for all licensure candidates. Mount Union College's Reading Endorsement program builds from the required reading core and incorporates additional coursework and field experiences.

**Curriculum:** Mount Union College requires offers two specialized tracks leading to a reading endorsements: reading endorsement for early childhood and intervention specialist licensure candidates and reading endorsement for middle childhood, adolescence to young adult and multiage licensure candidates. In addition, the reading endorsement is available to candidates that completed the initial teaching license requirements at Mount Union College. The program is at the undergraduate level and meets state requirements for the reading endorsement.

**Recommendation:** This program meets the Chancellor's requirements for program approval and the State Board of Education's minimum standards for a reading endorsement, K-12. There were no concerns identified in the review and approval is recommended for a three-year period. In addition, it should be noted that the program is subject to periodic review by the Chancellor to ensure that the standards for Ohio endorsements and licenses continue to be met.